

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated May 22, 2003, claims 1-21 were pending. Claims 1-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Scherrer of U.S. Patent No. 6,504,579 ("Scherrer") in view of Rindaldi et al. of U.S. Patent No. 6,327,002 ("Rindaldi") and Rabii et al. of U.S. Patent No. 5,220,414 ("Rabii").

In this response, no claim has been cancelled. Claims 1, 7-8, 15, and 18 have been amended to particularly point out and distinctly claim, in full, clear, concise, and exact terms, the subject matter which Applicant regards as his invention. Applicant hereby reserves the right to swear behind Scherrer and Rindaldi in the subsequent prosecution of the present application. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

In view of foregoing amendments, Applicant submits that claims 1-23 of the present application include limitations not disclosed or taught by the cited references. As a result, claims 1-23 are patentable over the cited references.

Specifically, independent claim 1 includes limitations of separating luminance and chrominance information based on constancy value below a predetermined threshold, where the constancy value represents amount of variation among the discrete samples of the digitized video signals within a dimension, and using the separated luminance and chrominance information to generate an output signal. Applicant submits that none of the cited references, individually or in combination, discloses or suggests the above limitations. The weighting factor contended by the Examiner does not appear to represent amount of variation among the discrete samples of the digitized video signals within a dimension. Therefore, independent claim 1 is patentable over the cited references.

Similarly, independent claims 8 and 15 include limitations similar to those discussed above. Therefore, for reasons similar to those discussed above, independent claims 8 and 15 are patentable over the cited references.

In addition, none of the cited references discloses or suggests determining the constancy values of H, V, and T dimensions in manners claimed by claims 4-6. The Examiner contends that Rabii reads on the limitations of claims 4-6. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Rabii fails to disclose or suggest measuring absolute values between two samples within the same scan line, similar positions of different lines, or similar positions between different frames to generate the H, V, or T constancy values respectively. Particularly, Rabii's diagonal direction does not represent two samples at the similar positions at different video frames, as contended by the Examiner.

Furthermore, as claimed in claims 7, and 22-23, the separation of luminance and chrominance information including adding or subtracting discrete samples on the same scan line that are 180 degrees out-of-phase, adjacent lines, or between different frames. Applicant submits that these limitations are not disclosed or suggested by the cited references, individually or in combination. Therefore, in addition to those applied to their respective independent claims, claims 4-7 and 22-23 are independently patentable over the cited references.

The rest of the claims depend from one of the above independent claims, thus include all of the distinct features of the respective independent claim, and therefore, for the reasons similar to those discussed above, are patentable over cited references. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully submitted.

CONCLUSION

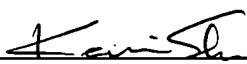
In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits the present application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (408) 720-8300.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any shortage of fees in connection with this response.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

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Kevin G. Shao
Reg. No. 45,095

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025-1026
(408) 720-8300